Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) There has been no assault of any kind.

(b) i. A report of what transpired to be rude behaviour on the part of the officer concerned was received by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

ii. The officer was reported to the Government for punishment.

(c) No public interest is served by publishing this correspondence.

The supply of drinking water in Nemmara.

434. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(1) why they have stopped the distribution of drinking water in Nemmara, especially this year, when there had been no normal rainfall;

(2) why they have removed the engine from the site;

(3) whether they will be pleased to make arrangements for water distribution from the middle of Kumbham?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) The Government are making permanent arrangements for supplying water to Nemmara. The works are not yet complete.

(2) The Boring Plant was wanted elsewhere.

(3) It is not possible.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Has the Government been able to give water since?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes. I was able to start the engine on Sunday last.

The inconvenience to the public by collecting metals, etc., on the sides of the roads.

435. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they are aware of the hardship and inconvenience caused to the public by the collection of metals for repair on the sides of the roads for about 6 months in the year;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what steps they have taken or propose to take to remove the inconvenience;

(c) whether they are aware of the danger and inconvenience caused to the public by the existence of the large number of Irish drains in the public roads;

(d) if the answer is in the affirmative, what steps they have taken or propose to take to remove them?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) As a rule, metal for renewals is collected only for about one fifth of the length of any road in a year. Metal for repairs does not present any real inconvenience, as there will be only one or two heaps in a furlong.

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